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NOFORN/NOCONTRACT/QRCON
NATIONAL FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE BOARD

TCS-889371-77

Cy 7

17 JAN 1977

The Honorable Edward H. Levi
The Attorney General
Department of Justice
Washington, D. C. 20530

Dear Ed:

Attached is a study on Intelligence Activities Against Illicit Narcotics Trafficking which was prepared by my Critical Collection Problems Committee (CCPC). I commend this study to your attention. It is an exhaustive examination of the problems inherent in the United States Government's attempts to combat illicit narcotics trafficking.

The National Foreign Intelligence Board (NFIB) has endorsed this report and its Conclusions and Recommendations. I have directed the implementation of those actions which can be taken within the Intelligence Community. There are a number, however, which transcend Intelligence Community boundaries and I have referred these to the National Security Council so that the necessary action can be initiated at that level.

You will note that the NFIB approved the recommendation that the Intelligence Community Staff, in consultation with the Department of Justice and the Drug Enforcement Administration, consider recommending revision of Executive Order 11905 to include the foreign intelligence elements of DEA in the membership of the foreign intelligence community to facilitate the coordination of foreign narcotics intelligence programs (pages six and seven). It was the consensus of the Board, however, that DEA should not be made an NFIB member. Representatives of my Intelligence Community Staff will be getting in touch with your office in implementation of this recommendation.

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You will also be concerned with Section F, Legal Problems and Restrictions, beginning on page 14. In this connection, we were gratified to receive the letter of 15 December 1976 from Mr. John J. Buckley, Jr., your Special Assistant, informing us that you have determined that NSA may provide DEA with the specific strategic intelligence it has requested. This will, I am sure, benefit the U.S. Government's efforts to collect and report foreign intelligence information on international narcotics activities. In relation to this problem, I should like to call your attention to the Intelligence Community Staff study concerning restrictions on electronic surveillance in the foreign intelligence field which I forwarded to you on 18 October 1976. Many of the problems described in this study relate directly to the field of narcotics intelligence and favorable action on its recommendations would permit greatly improved support by NSA and CIA to the U.S. narcotics control effort.

Finally, I should like to add my strong personal endorsement to the recommendations contained in this study. I should appreciate your personal attention to those which fall within the purview of the Department of Justice.

Sincerely,

Mr. George Bush

George Bush
Chairman

Attachment:
As Stated

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ActingChmnCCPC [REDACTED]:kdk (5056) (14Jan77)

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